

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 4349

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNGA YO

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION THAT SECRETARY SEE YUGOSLAV FOREIGN
SECRETARY

REF: A. BELGRADE 3712 B. STATE 175418 C. BELGRADE 4276

1. WHILE I AM FULLY AWARE OF DEMANDS ON SECRETARY'S TIME, I DO HOPE HE WILL FIND OPPORTUNITY TO MEET MINIC, WHO WILL BE AT THE UNGA UNTIL APPROXIMATELY OCTOBER 7. MINIC'S SEPTEMBER 27 UNGA SPEECH, WHICH IS SOMEWHAT IRASCIBLE AND IN ANY CASE REFLECTS IN CONSIDERABLE DEGREE INADEQUATE UNDERSTANDING OF US FOREIGN POLICY POSITIONS, ONLY REINFORCES MY CONVICTION THAT US INTERESTS WOULD BE WELL SERVED BY THIS MEETING.

2. WHEN I RECENTLY SPOKE WITH AMERICAS DEPARTMENT CHIEF KREACIC, HE EXPRESSED KEEN DISAPPOINTMENT -- I MIGHT EVEN SAY HE WAS UPSET -- THAT IT SEEMED UNLIKELY SECRETARY WOULD BE ABLE TO SEE MINIC. KREACIC MENTIONED AMONG OTHER THINGS THAT MINIC IS WIDELY RESPECTED THROUGHOUT THE GOY AS A PRESTIGIOUS AND EXPERIENCED POLITICAL LEADER WITH A BRIGHT FUTURE. HE WEARS A SECOND HAT AS A VICE PRESIDENT OF THE FEERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (I.E., VICE PREMIER) AND, INDEED, THE YUGOSLAVS ALWAYS ARE SCRUPULOUS IN SO IDENTIFYING HIM.

3. I BELIEVE THAT GETTING TO KNOW MINIC IS IMPORTANT TO OUR INTERESTS
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WE EXPEND A LOT OF ENERGY PREPARING AND UPDATING CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR WHAT HAPPENS AFTER TITO, BUT ONE OF THE VITAL ELEMENTS AT THAT TIME WILL BE THE DEGREE TO WHICH WASHINGTON LEADERS HAVE PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF AND OPEN LINES OF COMMUNICATIONS WITH KEY YUGOSLAVS. MINIC NOW IS ONE OF THESE, AND WILL BE FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. ESTABLISHED PERSONAL RAPPORT BETWEEN MINIC AND THE SECRETARY COULD BE IMPORTANT WHEN TITO GOES.

4. IN ADDITION, A MEETING WILL PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE SECRETARY PERSONALLY TO ASSURE MINIC OF THE CONTINUED US INTEREST IN YUGOSLAVIA'S INDEPENDENT FUTURE -- A SUBJECT WHICH SEEMS OF LATE TO BE A QUESTION OF CONCERN TO THE GOY, JUDGING FROM AMBASSADOR GRANFIL'S STATEMENTS TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY AUGUST 29 (REF B).

5. FINALLY, THE SECRETARY HAS DONE SOME STRAIGHT TALKING ABOUT NONALIGNMENT WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE STIMULATED A YUGOSLAV RESPONSE. SINCE THIS CONCEPT IS THE FOUNDATION STONE OF YUGOSLAV FOREIGN POLICY

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THE OPPORTUNITY FOR MINIC PERSONALLY TO RECEIVE THE SECRETARY'S ELABORATION OF THE US VIEW OF NONALIGNMENT COULD FORSTALL POTENTIAL YUGOSLAV MISUNDERSTANDINGS IN AN AREA CRITICAL TO CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. TOON

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